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STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

IN THE MATTER OF

AZIZ ABED t/a PHOENIX CONTRACTORS License and Business Permit #11311

TO PRACTICE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING IN THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Administrative Action

FINAL ORDER OF DISMISSAL

This matter was opened to the New Jersey Board of Examiners of Electrical Contractors ("the Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed, and on which the following preliminary findings of fact and conclusions of law are made;

## FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1. Aziz Abed ("respondent") is a licensed electrical contractor in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto. Respondent has been issued business permit #11311 under the name "Phoenix Contractors" and has been engaging in the practice of electrical contracting under that business permit at all times relevant hereto.
- 2. Respondent indicated on his triennial license renewal application that he had been convicted of a crime. Specifically, respondent was convicted on November 16, 2005 in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania of Making a False Statement to a Law

Enforcement Officer. Respondent was sentenced to three (3) years probation and fined \$25,000.

- 3. On January 21, 2009, respondent appeared before the Board concerning the arrest and conviction. Respondent stated he owned a company called "Philadelphia International Distributors" in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The company sold Pseudoephedrine for which a license is required. Also, one of the conditions for selling Pseudoephedrine is the requirement to keep detailed records. Respondent did not keep records of the sale of the drug. When questioned, respondent lied to the authorities and said that the brief case containing the required records had been stolen. Respondent stated he still owes \$4,000 of the \$25,000 penalty, but did successfully complete probation in November 2008.
- 4. The Board sent a letter to respondent dated April 24, 2009 via regular mail. The letter was sent to respondent's address of record. In the letter, the Board directed that respondent provide letters of recommendation from individuals, unrelated to him, who know of his past and can attest to his rehabilitation. The letter also directed respondent to provide a letter from his probation officer regarding respondent's compliance with his probation. Respondent failed to provide the requested information.
- 5. The Board sent respondent a second letter, dated March 25, 2010, via certified and regular mail. The letter again directed respondent to provide the letters of recommendation, as well as the letter from respondent's probation officer. The letter advised respondent of his duty to cooperate pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2. The certified card bearing a signature and indicating a delivery date of April 16, 2010 was returned to the Board. The regular mailing was not returned to the Board. To date, respondent has failed to provide the requested information.

## CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

1. The above preliminary findings of fact provide grounds for disciplinary action against respondent's license, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e), in that respondent has engaged in

professional and occupational misconduct by failing to cooperate with the Board and provide requested information in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2.

## DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline was entered on May 13, 2011 provisionally assessing a \$2,000.00 civil penalty and provisionally suspending respondent's license and business permit to practice as an electrical contractor in the State of New Jersey. A copy of the Provisional order was forwarded to respondent at the last known address on file with the Board by certified and regular mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the 30th business day following entry, unless respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated Findings of Fact or Conclusions of Law by submitting a written request for modification or dismissal setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should not be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefore.

Following the entry of the Provisional Order of Discipline, respondent provided the requested letters of recommendation and letter from his probation officer. As such, respondent complied with the Board's investigation to their satisfaction. Therefore, the Board voted to rescind the Provisional Order of Discipline.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this // day of July , 2012, ORDERED that:

- 1. The findings of fact and conclusions of law contained in the Provisional Order of Discipline entered on May 18, 2011 in the matter of Aziz Abed are hereby dismissed and the Provisional Order of Discipline rescinded.
  - 2. Nothing in this order precludes the Board from taking disciplinary action regarding

respondent's November 16, 2006 conviction in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania for Making False Statements to a Law Enforcement Officer.

NEW JERSEY BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

Joseph P. Schooley Board Chairman